



**DYD  
CONNECTIONS**

los angeles county  
department of  
**Youth  
Development**

***CELEBRATING***  
***3 YEARS***  
***OF DYD***

los angeles county  
department of  
***Youth  
Development***



DYD Partners,

[Our Third Year Report is out!](#) As I reflect on the third year of the Department of Youth Development, I am grateful for the impact we have been able to have on the lives of young people in Los Angeles County, thanks to our growing community of partners.

This year was a season of action: we nearly doubled our team, implemented the majority of [Youth Justice Reimagined](#) recommendations, and launched key programs including [Youth Development Networks](#) in five regions and [Reentry Action for Youth \(RAY\)](#).

Among the accomplishments we're proud to highlight: **More than 38,000 total engagements with youth** through our Youth Development Networks, Heart of Youth Justice Reimagined regional meetings and diversion referrals!

Kicking off DYD's fourth year, we are entering a season of boldness, strengthening our care-first strategies with the unapologetic commitment that every young person should thrive within their community.

Please read on below to learn more and to access the report online. As you review these stories and statistics, please recognize that your commitment has made it possible for DYD to prevent and interrupt systems involvement for young people in LA County.

DYD has been supporting young people who've been transferred between facilities and will be there to support young people as transfers continue. DYD and our in-facility Credible Messenger teams are providing focused support to all young people involved, with special attention to the girls, throughout the relocation process. Our core commitment remains ensuring they have continued and equal access to the meaningful programs, services, and resources necessary for their growth and connection to the community.

We are also seeing a positive trend in diversion referrals. This is fueled by our strengthened partnerships with law enforcement and the District Attorney's Office. By working together, we are better able to prevent further systems involvement, connecting young people directly with the community-based support required to address the root causes of their behavior.

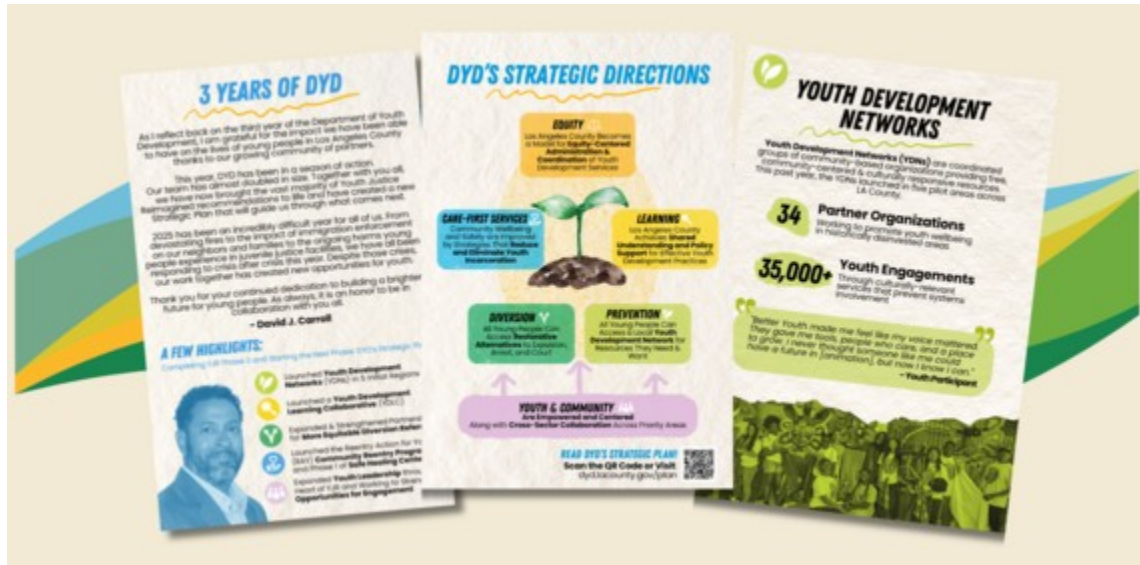
I want to encourage everyone to join us at DYD's Rooted in Us Youth Summit on Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Beehive! The Youth Summit is a space for system partners, community-based providers, youth & families to celebrate youth leadership and development. Our summit is completely free with food, music, resources, and workshops. I urge you to RSVP as soon as possible using the link below.

As always, I value your input and feedback. Connect with us at [info@dyl.lacounty.gov](mailto:info@dyl.lacounty.gov) with any questions or concerns and please explore DYD.LA for more information and resources.

  
DAVID J. CARROLL  
DIRECTOR



## DYD Third Year Report



Discover the strides we're making for LA County youth in our Third Year Report, covering July 2024 through July 2025. This document spotlights our key accomplishments in youth development and support, from empowering new programs to strengthening community partnerships. Look inside to see the highlights, understand our impact, and explore the bold priorities that will guide our work into the future!

[DYD Year 3 Report](#)

## Kelly Fischer Joins DYD



DYD extends a warm welcome to Kelly Fischer, our new Youth Development Branch Director. Kelly brings over 15 years of dedicated County experience to the role, having most recently led the implementation of the Trauma Prevention Initiative at the Office of Violence Prevention. Her extensive background in developing and managing impactful programs will be crucial in overseeing the continued growth of the Branch's core strategies, including youth development networks, youth diversion, and school-based programs. Welcome to the DYD team, Kelly!

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### **DYD's 2025 Rooted In Us Youth Summit**

los angeles county  
department of  
**Youth  
Development**

**ROOTED  
IN US**  
YOUTH SUMMIT

**11.14.25**

**THE BEEHIVE**

**961 E 61st St, Los Angeles, CA 90001**

**9am-4pm**

**WHAT TO EXPECT:**

**Free Food**

**Youth-Led Activities & Entertainment**

**Exciting Giveaways**

**Interactive Workshops**

**Community Dialogues**

**Youth Performances**

**CARE FIRST**

Be seen & heard by sharing  
your story in an interview or  
share your creativity contributing  
to a collaborative mural.

**REGISTER  
TODAY!**

**[HTTPS://BIT.LY/DYDROOTEDINUS2025](https://bit.ly/dydroutedinus2025)**

Are you ready for DYD's Rooted In Us 2025 Youth Summit? We're hosting this fantastic, free event filled with food, music, resources, youth-centered workshops and hands-on activities—all focused on youth leadership and empowerment.

Join us November 14, 2025 at The Beehive in Los Angeles, located at 961 East 61st Street, Los Angeles, 90001. Visit our [DYD Summit webpage to register](#) and check out the amazing agenda ahead! Be sure to follow our [@lacountyyouth](#) Instagram account for updates and Summit previews!

## DYD in the Community



Did you know that youth sports improve well-being, academics, and relationships beyond the game? [That's just one of the insights DYD researchers shared](#) to support Game Changers: Youth Athletes for Equity, the latest 2nd District Racial Justice Learning Exchange (RJLE) held on September 20th at Athens Park. We want to thank [Supervisor Holly Mitchell](#) for letting us join in on the fun! We're thankful to be part of efforts to expand equitable access to sports and community assets. Here's to more movement, more equity, and more opportunities for all youth!

**RESPECT THE ROAD 2025 SUMMIT**

DAVID CARROLL, LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

**DAVID(S)...**

- ENJOYS COACHING AND PLAYING SPORTS
- USED TO SNEAK AWAY FROM WORK TO MENTOR YOUTH
- HAS A LIFELONG AFFINITY FOR MOTOR VEHICLES, INCLUDING CURRENTLY HAVING 2 OLDER VEHICLES THAT HE SPENDS A LOT OF TIME TRYING TO KEEP THEM RUNNING!
- NOT SO FUN FACT: HIS DRIVERS LICENSE WAS SUSPENDED PRIOR TO HIS 18TH BIRTHDAY FOR POINTS. HE IS 55, AND HASN'T HAD A TICKET IN OVER 25 YEARS

SRK AAA Youth Development WATMO Allie's Way CHP K JANICE HAHN

DYD Director David J. Carroll provided the keynote address at the [Street Racing Kills \(SRK\) Respect the Road 2025 Summit](#), which brought together youth and organizations committed to promoting safe streets. DYD partners with SRK to facilitate street safety workshops in schools and at community events; in fact, we're excited to announce we're expanding our efforts to include seven workshops at LA County parks throughout October! You can learn more about these programs and join the movement to save lives by visiting [streetracingkills.org](http://streetracingkills.org).



DYD joined other County departments for a fantastic Mexican Independence Day Parade and Festival in East LA! This massive yearly event is an exuberant celebration of Mexican culture and history, uniting families and friends in joyful festivities as the largest Mexican Independence Day gathering in America.



A big thank you to everyone who joined our Diversion Provider Learning Session at Dockweiler Youth Center in El Segundo! Countywide providers came together to share best practices in diversion outreach, case planning, and accountability. DYD director David Carroll also shared powerful insights on our work in the community, schools, and facilities. [Click here](#) to learn more about diversion programs, read youth testimonials and find resources.

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## **Our SPOT & Food Programs**



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF

Parks & Recreation



# OUR SPOT - TEEN CENTER

Looking for somewhere fun to hang out after school? We've got you! Activities include:

- Field trips and Teen nights
- Cultural Arts Workshops
- Mentorship and job pathways
- Supper served at 7:00 PM

## HOURS

- During School Year:  
Afterschool – 9:00 PM
- Summer: 3:00 PM – 9:00 PM

REGISTER NOW ➔

[parks.lacounty.gov/ourspot](https://parks.lacounty.gov/ourspot)



## OUR SPOT LOCATIONS

100% FREE for teens ages 12–18 (Grades 6–12)

### AMELIA MAYBERRY PARK

13201 East Meyer Road,  
Whittier, CA 90605, (562) 944-9727

### BELVEDERE COMMUNITY REGIONAL PARK

4914 East Cesar Chavez Avenue,  
Los Angeles, CA 90022, (323) 260-2342

### CITY TERRACE PARK

1126 North Hazard Avenue,  
East Los Angeles, CA 90063, (323) 260-2371

### EARVIN MAGIC JOHNSON PARK

905 E. El Segundo Blvd.,  
Los Angeles, 90059 (323) 942-8457

### EAST RANCHO DOMINGUEZ PARK

15116 South Atlantic Avenue,  
Compton, CA 90221, (310) 603-3724

### EL CARISO COMMUNITY REGIONAL PARK

13100 Hubbard St.,  
Sylmar, CA 91342, (818) 367-5043

### EUGENE A. OBREGON PARK

4021 E. First St.,  
Los Angeles, CA 90063 (323) 260-2344

### FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT PARK

7600 Graham Avenue,  
Los Angeles, CA 90001, (323) 586-7228

### JACKIE ROBINSON PARK

8773 East Avenue R  
Little Rock, CA 93543 (661) 944-2880

### LENNOX PARK

10828 South Condon Avenue,  
Lennox, CA 90304, (310) 419-6712

### LOMA ALTA PARK

3330 N. Lincoln Ave.,  
Altadena, CA 91001, (626) 398-5451

### MONA PARK

2291 E. 121st St.,  
Compton, CA 90222, (310) 603-3729

### PAMELA PARK

2236 Goodall Avenue,  
Duarte, CA 91010, (626) 357-1619

### RUBEN F. SALAZAR PARK

3864 Whittier Boulevard,  
Los Angeles, CA 90023, (323) 260-2330

### SAN ANGELO PARK

245 South San Angelo Avenue,  
La Puente, CA 91746, (626) 968-2666

### STEPHEN SORENSEN PARK

16801 E. Ave. P,  
Palmdale, CA 93591, (661) 264-1249

**Hilda L. Solis**

LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**Holly J. Mitchell**

LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**Lindsay Horvath**

LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**Janice Hahn**

LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**Kathryn Barger**

LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DYD is proud to provide support for Our SPOT, LA County Parks and Recreation’s free, weekday, park-based program for teens aged 12-18! Our SPOT offers LA County teens access to a safe and supportive environment where they can socialize, explore interests, receive homework help, and enjoy hot meals, mentoring, sports, and career exploration. Our SPOT offers engaging, meaningful programming year-round during critical after-school and evening hours. Learn more about Our

SPOT and find a park location near you by [clicking here](#). And learn about the food programs available for youth, teens and seniors at LA County Parks by [clicking here](#) or on the flyer below.



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF  
**Parks & Recreation**

# LA COUNTY PARKS FOOD PROGRAMS

## FOR YOUTH, TEENS & SENIORS

**FREE HOT SUPPER  
TEEN PROGRAM**

- 16 PARKS
- AGES 12-18
- MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
- SERVING TIME: 7:00 PM
- REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

**FREE YOUTH  
SNACK PROGRAM**

- 48 PARKS
- AGES 17 AND UNDER
- MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
- SERVING TIME: 3:00PM - 4:00PM
- NO ENROLLMENT REQUIRED

**SENIOR NUTRITION  
PROGRAMS**

- 9 PARKS
- AGES 60+
- MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
- SERVING TIME: 11:00AM-1:00PM
- PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- BASED ON AVAILABILITY

FOR PARK LOCATIONS VISIT:

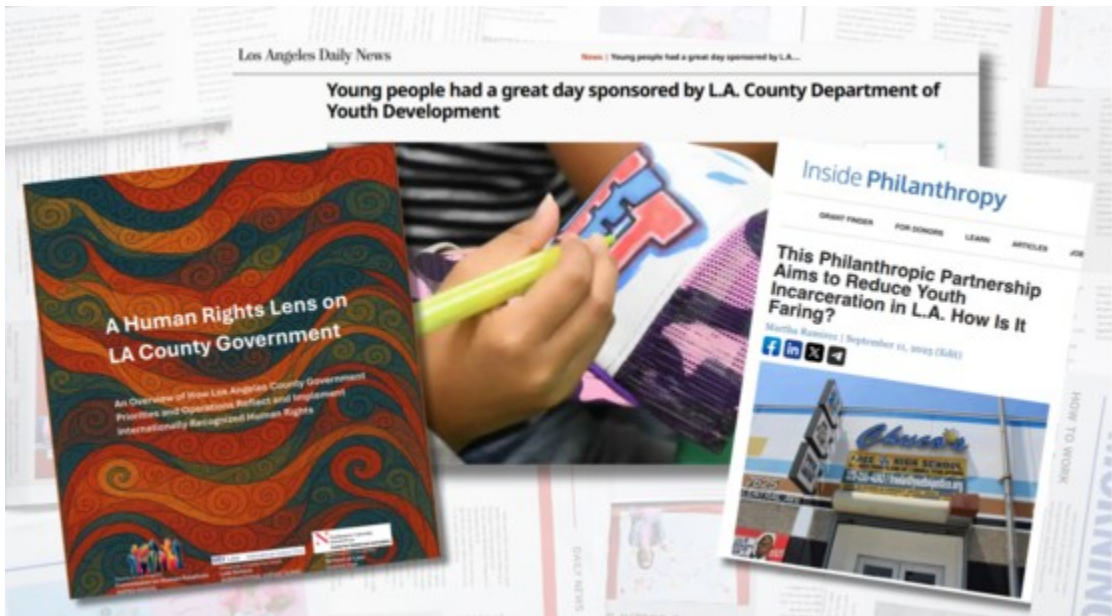


[bit.ly/lacparksfoodprograms](http://bit.ly/lacparksfoodprograms)

**lacpf**

To help support and expand these food programs for youth and families in need, please donate to the Los Angeles County Parks Foundation: [www.lacpf.org](http://www.lacpf.org)

**DYD in the News**



- DYD is featured in this Commission on Human Relations report highlighting human rights advances in LA County agencies: [A Human Rights Lens on LA County Government.pdf](#)
- Our spectacular Summer Series in the spotlight! [Young people had a great day sponsored by L.A. County Department of Youth Development – Daily News](#)
- [This Philanthropic Partnership Aims to Reduce Youth Incarceration in L.A. How Is It Faring? | Inside Philanthropy](#)

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## Heart of Youth Justice Reimagined

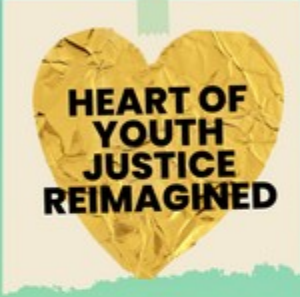


Heart of Youth Justice Reimagined (HYJR) in Long Beach welcomed new members to its September meeting with free food, fun activities and a know-your-rights education session designed to help keep young people safe. HYJR meetings are monthly, in-person gatherings co-led by young people that offer a great opportunity to build leadership skills and connect with peers. Youth who attend receive a gift card for their participation. Check the flyer below to discover what youth are saying about HYJR and use the bit.ly links or QR codes to sign up for upcoming HYJR meetings near you!

*"I loved how it was a safe space. Everyone was so nice to each other & I felt comfortable."*



*"HYJR has shown me a new perspective of cooperation and collaboration and helped me get a JOB!"*



**October Gatherings for Heart of YJR Youth Leadership Work Groups**



**EAST LOS ANGELES**

October 2nd 4876 Gleason St.  
5pm - 6:30pm Los Angeles 90022



**ANTELOPE VALLEY**

October 9th 38417 20<sup>th</sup> Street East,  
5pm - 7pm Suite A  
Palmdale 93550

[bit.ly/AVHYJR](http://bit.ly/AVHYJR)



**SOUTH CENTRAL**

October 16th 7625 S. Central Ave.  
5pm - 7pm Los Angeles 91340

[bit.ly/sclahyjr2025](http://bit.ly/sclahyjr2025)



**LONG BEACH**

October 22nd Long Beach City College  
4:30pm - 6:30pm 1305 E. Pacific Coast Hwy.  
Long Beach 90806

[bit.ly/LBDYDHYJR](http://bit.ly/LBDYDHYJR)



**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY**

October 30th 1101 San Fernando Rd.  
6pm - 8pm San Fernando 91340

[bit.ly/818youthjustice](http://bit.ly/818youthjustice)



*"I noticed drastic changes in my attitude and the way I carry myself; I also am more confident expressing myself."*



*"I feel more connected and informed with my city and government; I look forward to this meeting every month."*

**DYD September & October GOATs**



Every month, we celebrate DYD staff members whose work perfectly reflects our commitment to supporting LA County youth with our GOAT (Greatest of All-Time) Awards!

In September, we honored Coordination & Innovation Branch Staff Assistant Lemar Henry. His incredible consistency and dependability—from producing and distributing materials, to ensuring smooth logistics for DYD community events- help keep our department running seamlessly. We were also excited to celebrate David Stevenson and Celeste Hampton, DYD’s communication team, for their work to increase engagement with DYD and highlight our powerful collaborations and accomplishments.

Our October GOATS are Diversion Program Manager Terry Robinson and Youth Development Program Director Vanessa Alrefaie. Terry tackles tough, complex work, serving as the invaluable guide and support his team coworkers count on. Vanessa is an inspiring collaborator, known for her

warmth, boundless energy and dedication to finding creative, meaningful ways to serve LA County youth.

Congratulations to all of our honorees!

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## Youth@Work: Your Career Starts Here!



Youth@Work provides opportunities for young people (ages 14-24) to gain valuable experience and develop in-demand skills through salaried positions in thriving industries. This program will connect you with local employers and America's Job Centers of California (AJCCs), where you can gain real-world experience and build your confidence. Take the next step toward a bright future by clicking [this link](#) or the banner above to learn more!

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## Care First

Care First uplifts the message that proven, prevention and healing-centered approaches give young people the resources and opportunities they need to succeed and lead meaningful lives.

Young people thrive when they have access to supportive adults, community resources, and real second chances—and communities become stronger, healthier, and safer.

Visit [DYD.LA](#) or click on the banner below to Learn more about DYD's Care First approach and how you can get involved to support and empower LA County youth.

